

# Any choices other than TANF?

(Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)

- Diversion Cash Assistance
- Medical
- Basic Food Program
- Food Stamp Employment & Training (BFET)
- Working Connections Child Care
- Child Support
- Unemployment Compensation



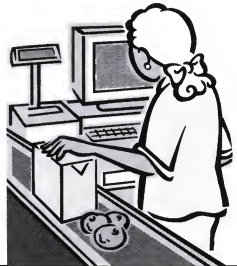
# Diversion Cash Assistance (DCA)

- You must be TANF eligible and verify source of new income.
- Payments are made directly to the vendor.
- If you are employed 30 hours or more you may be eligible for Career Services and Support Services.

DCA is to help you stay off TANF. If you reapply and get TANF within 12 months of receiving DCA, you will be required to pay back a portion of the money.

# Medical and/or Basic Food Program

- There are no time limits for these programs.
- You may be eligible for these programs even if you are working.



# Basic Food Employment & Training (BFET)



- In order to be eligible for BFET:
  - You cannot be receiving TANF
  - You must be eligible for Basic Food
- If you receive BFET
  - You may be able to attend school and receive assistance with tuition and books
  - Depending on income, you may be eligible to receive help paying for child care.

# Working Connections Child Care (WCCC)



You may receive child care assistance if you get a job or fully participate in Workfirst activities.

Eligibility is based on income.

# Child Support and a Monthly TANF Grant...

- You must help obtain child support from your child's other parent.
- If you are receiving a TANF grant, you cannot accept any child support directly.



Once your TANF closes, your child support  
will go directly to you.

# What do I have to do when I get TANF:

## Participate full-time (up to 40 hours) in Countable WorkFirst Activities:

- Job search
- Community Jobs
- Work Experience
- Community Service
- Short-term training

➡ You must turn in logs verifying the actual hours you participate on a weekly basis.



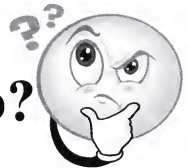
# Who must participate?

- ◆ All adults who are not exempt
  - ◆ If you cannot participate because of a disability or other reason, discuss this with the WF case manager
- ◆ Both parents in a 2-parent household
- ◆ Dependent children 16-18 years old
- ◆ Minor parents





# How do I decide what to do?



- You will complete a Comprehensive Evaluation
  - You will answer questions at your interview about your individual situation.
  - You will complete an assessment of your work skills and interests with Employment Security
  - You will complete an educational assessment with the College
- You will meet with the case managers
  - You will review the results of the assessments together
  - You will develop your IRP (Individual Responsibility Plan).

# Individual Responsibility Plan (IRP)

■ The IRP is a contract between you and the WorkFirst program outlining your participation requirements. Any time there is a change in your activities, your IRP must be changed.



# Pregnancy to Employment Pathway

If you are pregnant,  
you must complete an  
assessment with a  
WorkFirst Social  
Worker to determine  
what your level of  
participation will be.



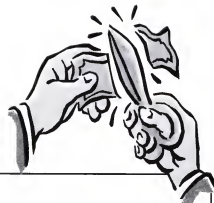
# What if I do not participate like I am required?

Refusing to participate without good cause in your WorkFirst activity will cost you money.



You will receive an appointment to come in and discuss why you are not participating. If you do not come in or do not have good cause, you will be sanctioned.

# What are the sanction penalties?



- Your TANF benefit is reduced by 40% for 6 months or until you participate.
- You must fully participate 4 weeks to cure your sanction. You will not receive the increased grant until the month after the sanction is cured.
- After 6 months, your TANF grant may be closed.
- If you reapply and are approved, you will have to participate for 4 weeks before you receive any cash benefits.

# WorkFirst Support Services

You must be in an approved WorkFirst activity and meeting your participation requirements in order to receive WorkFirst support services



Gas Cards



Bus passes



Car repairs

and more...

# Career Services

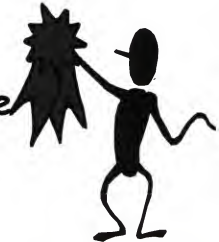
If your TANF closes or you receive Diversion Cash Assistance and you are working 30 hours or more per week, you may be eligible to receive:

- ➡ Payments totaling up to \$650 over the next 6 months
- ➡ Help with retaining your job and increasing your take home pay



# Other Post TANF Services

- When your TANF case closes due to employment you also may be eligible to receive:
  - Increased Basic Food benefits for 5 months
  - Continued Medical Assistance
  - Support Service Funds





**If you have any questions?**



**Just ask your WorkFirst Case Manager**